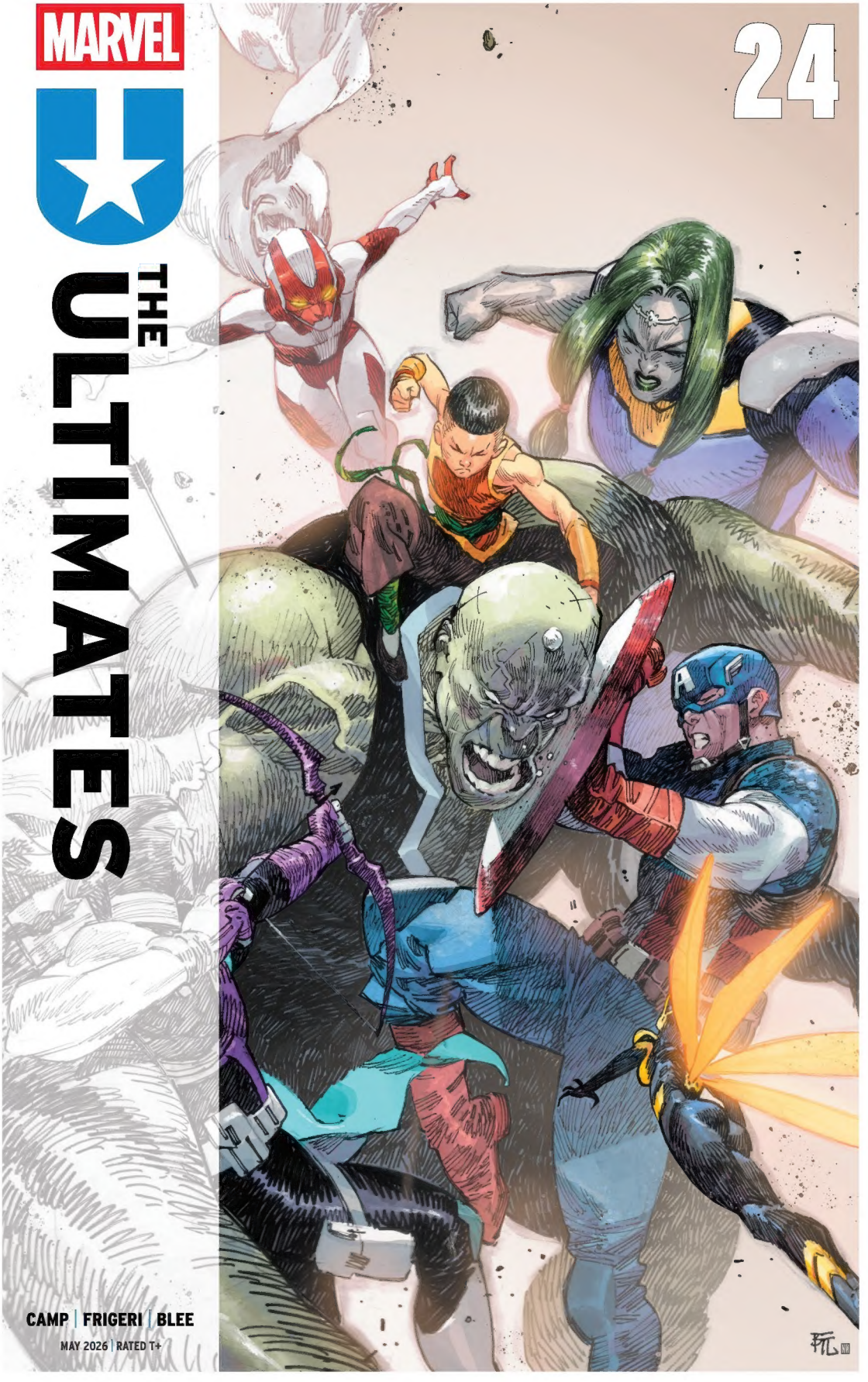

MARVEL
THE ULTIMATES
24
CAMP | FRIGERI | BLEE
MAY 2026 | RATED T+

K'UN-LUN.
THE HEAVENLY CITY.
What is strength?
"Master! Shen Qi's army approaches! The Celestial Guard have thrown down their weapons and joined his ranks!"
"A hypnotic aura. Nothing but a cheap trick of chi."
Trick or no, we are surrounded on all sides...

...what do we do, Incredible One?
This trick only works on those weak of will. Where are my *strongest?*
Where are my *Immortal Weapons?*
Those remaining protect your territories outside of Heaven, as you commanded, Most Enlightened One.
And?
"On *Monster Island,* the Ultimate called *She-Hulk* continues her war against us. She has retaken much of the atoll, destroying eight of our heavily fortified installations.
Where are they?! I'll kill every one of you until you bring me to them!
She's evolved past the gamma suppressors! I--I think she's drawing power from the soil itself!
"This is not the same monster we faced before. She is much *worse.*
"More powerful. More focused. Her rage can only be measured in the frantic readings of *distant seismographs.*
Go away, *Van Dyne!* You betrayed us all! It nearly cost me everything!
"Many of your followers have shed their material forms and rejoined the karmic wheel at her hands, Verdant One."
I know! I told you, I thought--look, I was wrong! *I'm sorry!* I'm here to make up for it!
Even if it kills me.
"Then rejoice for them, my Child. For their service, they will be reincarnated in stronger forms.

"How fares Crane Mother of the Bomb?"
BLACK HOLE BODY SLAM (FOURTH EXECUTION).
"The combination of gamma and her divinity make her a match.
RUGHHHHH!
Uhh!
"Nearly."
"And the armies, the gamma-enhanced hounds, strength-sapping weapons, the trillions spent...these make no difference?"
Mother of destruction! Death and disease suckle at your breast! They say you were a god once...
I will show you a god!!!
"They would, yes, master...
Eh? Oh, you brought your pets. Me too.
♫WEEEEHEEET!♫

"...if she were indeed *alone*.
And mine are *bigger*.
RAWWWWRRR!
BUDA DADADADA DADADA
FWOOOSH
"But in addition to reports that her teammate *Wasp* has joined her, it appears she is orchestrating the island *itself* against us.
"She knows it intimately, as we cannot.
"Its flora, its *fauna*. We've lost armies to flesh-hungry fish and hypnotic fields of flowers.
"God loves crabs." *Heh.*
"My master... we believe..."

POW
Death to false mothers and masters! Death to the poison gods of this poisoned world!
KRACKLE
"We believe...the gamma has chosen her. Judged her worthy. Judged her strong."
"And who are you to interpret the flameless fire, Child?
GRZZZZZAAAACK
I will erase all evidence of your existence from our land! No more death camps! No more prisons!
BOOOM
No more wall--
Joena!

⟨Tara! Sorry! Abram! You're alive! I--I have searched--⟩*
⟨We knew you'd come for us, Joena. We knew!⟩
Yay!
⟨Come, we must move! Before reinforcements arrive!⟩
*Translated from Marshallese.
"Move on. What of our other Earth-bound territories?"
"*The Prince of Meltdowns* holds the West Coast against the ***Fantastic Force insurgency.*** Their cosmic radiation is a remarkably effective counter to gamma.
"The Prince has killed at least seven, but each unit is completely ***independent*** and ignorant of the others' activities. Rooting them out is slow and difficult work.
"*Bride of Nine World-Breakers* leads anti-terrorist efforts in the homeland, suppressing Ultimate uprisings...
⟨We start the fire! We keep the flame burning!⟩**
"...which we believe were fomented by Fantastic Force cells operating domestically.
**Translated from Mandarin.
"But your territory is large, with many potential ***flash points.*** Resources are stretched thin. Acts of rebellion go unanswered."

Master! They have made it past the interior gate! The enemy is at your door!
We have guests! Then allow me to *greet* them.
CRUNCH
What is *strength?*

KABOOOOOM
Is it a measure of your ability to *destroy?*
To inflict pain and death?
Bruce Banner. You have murdered or imprisoned millions in Heaven and on Earth without recourse to justice.
To serve your own brutal agenda, you have twisted the ancient teachings, and so led mankind further away from enlightenment. You have perverted the path to peace.
The people of K'un-Lun speak with one harmonious voice. I am merely their messenger.
Your brief reign in Heaven is ended. ***Go.*** Immediately.
Cheap chi hypnosis! Parlor tricks!
You didn't really think that would work on ***me,*** did you?
To bend the world to your will?
No. But I thought that I must try.
Or is it something ***else?***

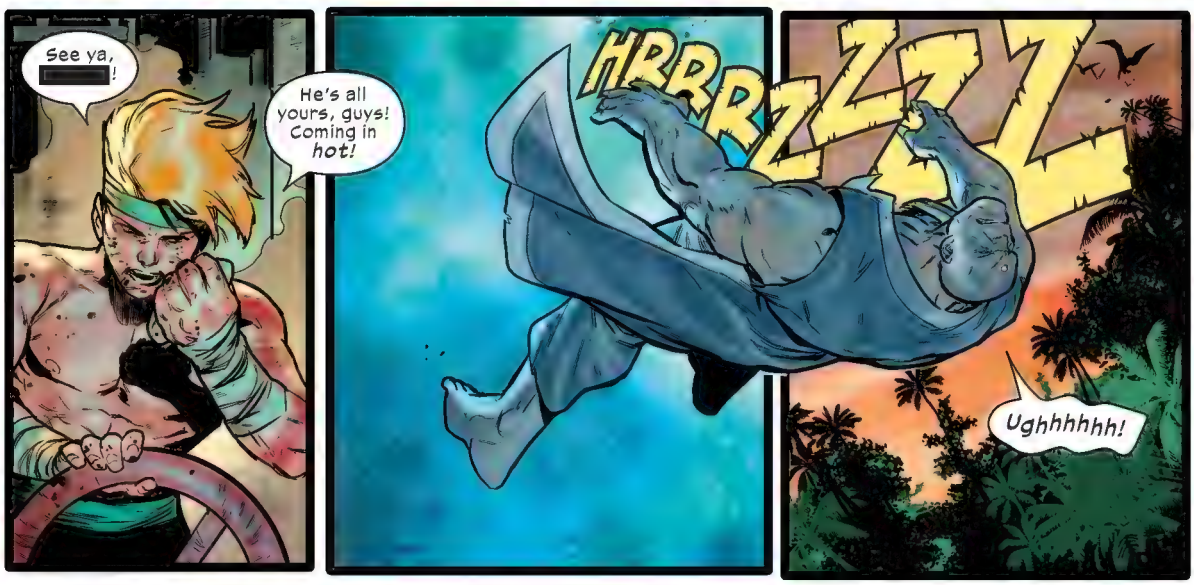
Children! They send children against *me!* I, whose strength toppled gods!
FIST OF THE FOUR FUNDAMENTAL FORCES.
SCORPION'S HEART-STOPPING STING.
CYCLOTRONIC SPIN KICK.
I, who slayed Shou-Lao the Undying!
COBRA'S PARALYZING TAP.
Who plunged my hands into the great dragon's chest and tore out his Celestial heart!
CHERNOBYL CHILD CHOP.
PARALYZING POINTER TOUCH.
Who felt creation thrum through my fingers! *You dare?!*
I do.
TWO-HANDED HOLOCAUST ATTACK (THIRD EXECU--
Huh?
I remember all of my past lives. Collectively, thousands of years of training, of study, of meditation.
I have mastered every technique. Invented some of the styles you now employ.
You have led my people to spiritual ruin. You stole my destiny. And though I have renounced fighting and violence...

HRRRGHAAHHH!!!
...for you I will make one exception!
Do you see? You are the great dragon I was destined to slay! It was you all along!
Your heart... Shou-Lao's heart... is mine!
I am the Immortal Iron Fist!
No. It's not--
And you are an ailing old dragon.
Unh!
FURY OF THE ULTIMATE IRON FIST.
And do you know what we do with dragons?
We slay them.
Ready, Danny?!
As I'll ever be! Hopefully. I think.

Submit and you will be shown mercy.
Mercy?! Me?!
I am the strongest being in Heaven, Hell or Earth!

If I cannot rule in Heaven, I will destroy it!
I believe you would.

Which is why you are no longer welcome here. Do not return.


See ya, [redacted]!
He's all yours, guys! Coming in hot!
HRRRZZZT
Ughhhhhh!

Welcome to Monster Island, Banner. It will be your *grave.*
Joena! My child. It doesn't seem so long ago I bounced you on my knee.
Now look at you. Queen of monsters.
I am the living vengeance of my people, of this land! I am *your death!*
And I... have been hungry for a challenge.
Show me.

Show me your rage.
Death to tyrants!
What is strength?
BOOOM
Too slow!
Hah! Pathetic!
THWACK!
My god...!
THUMP
Weak. Frail. Puny.
More!!!
Is it your capacity to do harm?

Or your capacity to *absorb* it?
You wish to tear down all that I have built with my own two hands?! You call me a *tyrant?!*
To take?
RIIIPPPP
I am no Dugarry! When I conquered my enemy's paradise, I did not foul it--I *perfected* it!
As I am perfecting my piece of the world.
Is strength just surviving?
Tyrant?! I am a *modernizer!* I slay the dragons of the superstitious old world...!

I modernized the Celestial bureaucracy! I strengthened Heaven's existing caste system and created her first professional police force!
Is strength *sacrifice?*
I have delivered to my subjects a perfectly ordered existence! Security. Sense.
Uff!
Is it rage?
Eh?
Crab food! Hahaha!
Is it pain?
Crab food!
Power?
Delightful!!!

Or could it be something else entirely?
You are no great man! You are a monster! A tyrant! A weakling!
You kill and control the people because you fear us!
Fear?
Could it be cooperation?
Uh-oh.
Ugh!!!
Sorry!
One-sixth of the world's population is under my direct or indirect command!
I fear? Hmmph!
Billions worship me as a living god!
My power does not descend from the people! The people's power--what little I allow them--descends from me.
Or growth?
I am the Breaker! I will sink this island and end you all with one blow!
Or is it mercy?

Eh?
Maybe strength is a *responsibility.*
What is--?
To something greater than one's own glory.
RRRAHHH!
Ants...?
Radioactively supercharged *ultra-ants,* actually. This island is *wild.* Those things could strip Manhattan clean in under a day.
Hank! What are--? I thought you needed time.
I do. I haven't figured it all out yet. All the lies...
But you're still my *wife.* That means you're never alone.
Hank...
I know.
It takes strength to forgive.

WOOOWWW OOOWWWWOOWOWWW
Damn it...
Uh-oh.
WHOOOWSSHHHHHH
Great strength.
Insects! All of you, insects!
As a boy, I spent summers burning ants under a magnifying glass!!! This will be almost nostalgic!
A strength beyond even mine.
WHOMP
The past is rarely how we remember it!
This is all a game to you! All a joke!
Our suffering! Our pain!
Not a game. A project.
Control your emotions, girl!

What right do you have to be angry anyway?!
Hurk!
Hlh!
What right?! What right?!?!
The gamma gives as it takes. What was lost? A life of total insignificance?
Of weakness before the waves washed you away?
You should be grateful!
I transformed you! Improved you! Made you strong!
Gamma made you great! I made you great!
Your generation...so entitled.
We've been here before, haven't we? Deja vu.
This time we finish what we started, just the two of us, eh?
Does strength come from somewhere deep inside of us...
Alone? Hahaha!

How long you've studied us, and how little you understand!
...or does it come from outside, like a precious mineral, bound to the dirt beneath our feet?
Men like you have no relationship to the land. For you, it is only something more to possess. A commodity, like a television, or a chair.
CRACKLLEEEE
Hrrhuh!
For us, it is a living thing!
Do we draw it up from the ground...
For us, it is family!!! As near to us as our own heart...
Hurkk!
...from our friends, our family, our people, our home?
...rip it out, it returns to us!
No!
From all that we have endured.
Nnn!
Alone, I cannot defeat you...
...but we are never alone!
All of us.

What is strength?
Be careful, Janet! Don't get too close, she's--
Stop, She-Hulk! He's dead!
HRRH! HRRH! HRRRH!
Nothing to be glorified.
WHOMPSPLRCH WHOMPSPLRCH WHOMPSPLRCH
You can--
HRRAHHH!
KRACKLE
Strength for strength's sake is monstrous. It is born of fear and weakness.
Strength is a path to freedom. A means to an end.
I--
Attention, all Ultimates! This is Iron Lad, broadcasting from the City!
Nothing more.
The Dome is down! I repeat, the City is open! The Maker has returned!
Well, [redacted].
All available Ultimates-- get to the City!
The Maker is free!
CONCLUDED IN ULTIMATE ENDGAME #5!

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